

overland migrations of people across America's Western frontier began. Their stories of hardship, perseverance, and courage are legendary, and they figure prominently in the history of the West. The trails they traveled, especially in Wyoming, still remain a visible testimony to the great struggles of these early American pioneers.

During the mid-1800's, Casper, WY, was the only geographic location in the Western United States where the Oregon, Mormon, California, and Pony Express trails, as well as many Indian trails converged. A fork of the Bozeman Trail and the beginnings of the Bridger Trail also originated in Casper. These trails are a distinctive part of our Nation's past and they possess important historical and cultural values representing themes of migration, settlement, transportation, and commerce that shaped the landscape of the West.

Congress has recognized the historical significance of these trails. The National Trails Systems Act, as amended in 1978 and 1992, designates the Oregon, Mormon Pioneer, California, and Pony Express Trails as "National Historic Trails." The act also directs the Secretary of the Interior to protect, interpret, and manage the remnants of these trails on Federal lands.

While large segments of these trails, and their associated historic sites lie on Bureau of Land Management [BLM] lands in Wyoming, no interpretive center is available in Wyoming, or any adjacent State, to educate the public on the role of these trails in our Nation's history.

In an effort to preserve and interpret this important history, today I am introducing legislation to establish the National Historic Trails Interpretive Center [NHTIC] in Casper, WY. The bill encompasses a unique partnership of Federal and non-Federal interests to jointly construct and operate this Center. These interests include the BLM, the city of Casper, and the nonprofit National Historic Trails Foundation. These entities came together in 1992 to build a center to memorialize and interpret the national historic trails in the West.

The interpretive and educational programs that will be associated with the Trails Center in Casper will enable visitors to discover and appreciate the miles of untouched trails that lie on public lands in the West. The Center will identify and help protect sensitive historic trail remnants to prevent degradation. The National Historic Trails Centers will also provide an opportunity for the BLM to showcase public lands emphasizing the Bureau's commitment to preserve lands of historical value.

Under the cooperative agreement, there is a clear commitment of non-Federal partners to share costs to construct, maintain, and operate the Trails Center. City, State, foundation, and private interests will bear approximately half of the total costs of the project. The city of Casper provided funds to initiate work on the Center. The city has also donated more than 10 acres of prime land overlooking the site of the North Platte River crossings of the historic trails for the Center. Furthermore, the citizens of Casper increased local sales taxes and have raised the required 1.5 million of construction dollars to meet their financial commitment under the cooperative agreement. The State of Wyoming has joined the partnership by giving \$700,000 for the Center. The cooperative agreement also requires non-Federal entities to establish a \$1 million endow-

ment, the interest thereof to maintain exhibits for the life of the Center. The overwhelming amount of non-Federal support for the Center is precisely the kind of cooperation Congress intended in managing and interpreting the historic trails of the Nation.

Under the cooperative agreement, the BLM has an important but limited role in establishing and operating the National Historic Trails Interpretive Center. The BLM has already completed a striking design as well as the engineering blueprints of the Center. With this work completed, the land available, and most of the non-Federal funds in hand, the Center is now ready to construction. This legislation provides congressional authorization of funds for the BLM to do so. Once the Center is completed, the BLM will own and operate the facility. However, with the endowment, the authorization to charge visitors a modest entrance fee, and commitments for volunteer staffing, the facility will be largely self-sustaining from a financial perspective. This is important in view of the present and anticipated future funding restrictions of the Federal Government.

In Wyoming, we are experiencing great interest in the historic trails that cross the State. In 1992, a year when visitation to Yellowstone National Park and Grand Teton National Park was down, the Wyoming Department of Tourism reported an increase in tourism along the Oregon Trail route during the sesquicentennial of that trail. This year is the sesquicentennial of the Mormon Pioneer Trail. BLM officials have estimated that between 200,000 and 1 million visitors participated in trials events in Wyoming this year. We expect similar interest in trails during the sesquicentennials of the California and Pony Express historic trails. In truth, an increasing number of Americans are discovering, enjoying, and learning the history of these treks and are seeking to experience natural settings, landmarks, and physical remains of the trails.

I am pleased with the broad level of support the National Historic Trails Interpretive Center enjoys. As noted earlier, the city of Casper and the State of Wyoming have provided tremendous assistance to this effort—for that I thank them. The Governor of Wyoming, Jim Geringer, as well as Wyoming's former Governor, Mike Sullivan, have endorsed the Center from the beginning. Wyoming's U.S. Senators, MIKE ENZI and CRAIG THOMAS, support the project. Especially gratifying has been the support and encouragement from interests outside of Wyoming, such as the Oregon-California Trails Association. I deeply appreciate the support of my respected colleague from Utah, Representative JIM HANSEN, who is co-sponsoring this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, the establishment of the National Historic Trails Interpretive Center is in the public interest. The project contains the best elements of private and public cooperation. The construction and operation of this Trails Center is altogether consistent with the BLM's criteria for projects of this kind. I urge my colleagues to help advance our efforts to preserve and interpret a significant chapter of American history by lending their support for this legislation.

A TRIBUTE TO THE ANDERSON MONARCHS BASEBALL TEAM

HON. THOMAS M. FOGLIETTA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 1997

Mr. FOGLIETTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a group of young athletes from south Philadelphia who have just returned from a barnstorming baseball tour in tribute to the late, great Jackie Robinson. The Anderson Monarchs are a team of 15 boys between the ages 8 and 12 who play in the RBI, Reviving Baseball in the Inner Cities, League of Philadelphia. The team is named for Jackie Robinson's Negro League team, the Kansas City Monarchs, and plays its home games at the Marian Anderson Recreation Center in the heart of south Philadelphia.

Leaving Philadelphia last week in a restored 1947 bus, the team drove west to participate in the Kansas City Royal's celebration of the 50th Anniversary of Jackie Robinson's entry into the Major Leagues. The team, sponsored by the Philadelphia Phillies, Mellon PSFS and Acme Markets, embarked on a 13-day journey that began with a game in Brooklyn, NY, the former home of Jackie Robinson's Dodgers. From Brooklyn, the Monarchs traveled to Cleveland, where they participated in All-Star game festivities, then played a game against a local team. From there it was off to Detroit, Chicago, and Iowa, where they visited the site of the Field of Dreams, made famous by the movie of that name. Many of these youngsters have never been far from the urban landscape of Philadelphia, so traveling through the rural Midwest was quite an experience for them.

In Kansas City, the Monarchs visited the Negro Leagues Baseball Museum, where they were introduced to Hall-of-Famer, Buck O'Neill, a former Monarchs teammate of Jackie Robinson. Meeting this living legend and hearing his bittersweet tales of the Negro Leagues was the high point of the trip for many of the young ballplayers.

From Kansas City the team bus wound its way back, with stops for games in St. Louis, Louisville, and Pittsburgh, before returning to Philadelphia. Mr. Speaker, these youngsters are more than just ballplayers, they are ambassadors for Philadelphia, and I have received reports that they have represented our city with great honor throughout their travels. They have learned about the legacy of segregation in baseball, and they have taught others of these lessons along the way. In honoring the anniversary of Jackie Robinson's entry into the Major Leagues, the Monarchs have been a major success. They have demonstrated admirably the sentiment engraved on Jackie Robinson's gravestone that, "A life is not important except in the impact it has on other lives." In recognition of their successful tour, I ask that my colleagues join me today in honoring Philadelphia's Anderson Monarchs.

IN MEMORY OF DAVID L. CINI

HON. SAM GEJDENSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 1997

Mr. GEJDENSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with great sadness to pay tribute to David L.

Cini, a man who will long be remembered for his service to his family, to Connecticut, and to his beloved town of East Lyme. Mr. Cini passed away yesterday after a long illness.

The incredible courage he showed these last years has truly been inspiring. Despite physical challenges that would daunt most people, Mr. Cini never stopped working. Just last month I joined him on the town's waterfront to announce that a long-held goal of securing funding for a boardwalk had finally been achieved. For years he has worked to bring sensible development to the waterfront area of East Lyme. When we finally open the boardwalk, it will be with great sorrow that he will not be there to open it with us. I hope that the town will see fit to build that boardwalk in his honor.

Mr. Cini was not well, but he never stopped. He conducted the town's business and worked to ensure that everyone he came into contact with agreed with him that East Lyme was the best place to live. He passed away while still first selectman, which is, I think, how he preferred it.

His legacy in the town will be one of sound management, low taxes, and sensible improvements. He has been a tireless fighter for his community, representing it since 1980 as a board of education member, a selectman, and for the last eight years, first selectman. During part of that time, he was active with the Council of Governments, a regional coordinating group on Connecticut's south shore, even serving as chair at one point. He brought good honor to the town of East Lyme every day he came to work.

Certainly we will all miss David, but those who will miss him most—and in whom his legacy will endure—will be his wife Sally and his children: Heather, Holly, and Matt. Matt is following in his father's footsteps by serving eastern Connecticut's community as a valued member of my staff. When I see Matt at work, I see a bit of David; he is certainly his father's son.

Mr. Speaker, on Saturday David L. Cini will be laid to rest in his beloved town. Requiescat in pace.

DEPARTMENTS OF VETERANS AFFAIRS AND HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND INDEPENDENT AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1998

SPEECH OF

HON. BILL BARRETT

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 16, 1997

The House in Committee of the Whole House of the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2158) making appropriations for the Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and for sundry independent agencies, commissions, corporations, and offices for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998, and for other purposes:

Mr. BARRETT of Nebraska. Mr. Chairman, I'd like to share with my colleagues a small town's recent experience with the Environmental Protection Agency [EPA] which serves up yet another reason why the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation,

and Liability Act [CERCLA], commonly called Superfund, must be reformed and reformed soon.

Recently, EPA advised a community in the south-central part of my congressional district, Hastings, NE, that it intends to present the city and three or four potentially responsible parties [PRP's] with a bill for the costs EPA incurred at the Hastings Groundwater Contamination Site. EPA's Region 7 Administrator has confirmed that in the next 2 to 3 months EPA intends to demand payment for costs incurred between 1983 and 1994. EPA incurred these costs in its investigation, analysis, and study of contamination in Hastings. The bill apparently even will include EPA's indirect expenses, such as employee benefits, office costs, expenses, travel, and lodging—Believe it or not!

As you can imagine, this situation greatly alarms Hastings and me, since past costs for the site amount to more than \$20 million. EPA estimates the city would be responsible for \$1 to \$1.5 million, and the PRP's would be responsible for the balance. Unfortunately, EPA is not expected to allocate responsibility for these past costs among the various PRP's. Thus, the PRP's and the city will need to voluntarily allocate or litigate. As you know, litigation has been much more common under Superfund. Given the large amounts of money at stake, this could become a fight for survival.

You're probably thinking, so what's the big deal? I'll tell you—Hastings is a small town with a population of 23,000! The city collects approximately \$5 million in sales and property taxes annually. The city can't afford a \$1 to \$1.5 million bill. It can't raise taxes because the Nebraska legislature has placed a zero-spending lid on all Nebraska cities in an effort to curb taxes, and it can't afford to engage in costly litigation with the other PRP's. The city can ill-afford to lose its business base because it was forced to sue to reduce its liability.

The PRP's can't afford to pay the balance of the bill. It could bankrupt them. I don't know exactly what dollar amount would force the PRP's out of business, but any large bill—even if it does not amount to \$20 million—could severely hamper future business expansion and new job creation in the community.

This is a perfect example of why Superfund, and especially retroactive liability, needs to be reformed. Many communities are familiar with similar situations—a large portion of the pollution at Hastings occurred early in the century, and any pollution that did occur happened after hazardous waste laws were enacted. The disposal of the responsible materials was done according to the law of the day. Since then, companies have been bought and sold, the city's management has come and gone, and as a result, there are no real polluters now in Hastings—despite EPA's efforts to identify them.

This should be a warning to all of us. This is not an isolated case. This could happen in any district.

But what makes me so frustrated, Mr. Chairman, is that it's our fault. Congress passed Superfund. Congress has not been able to reform it, even though many of my colleagues have been working with each other and the administration to reform it for many years. It's a complex issue, but it shouldn't take this long or be this hard to do.

Often I question EPA's judgment, especially in Hastings' situation, and know the agency

has been overzealous or irrational with its regulations and enforcement of Superfund. However, I realize EPA has a bad law to enforce. But why should Congress keep giving EPA funds to implement a bad law? And what incentive does EPA have to work with Congress to reauthorize Superfund if we keep it so well funded? Congress must stand up to the pressure to simply throw money at a problem without understanding what we are dealing with. For example, why haven't we asked about the true nature of risk from hazardous waste sites, and why haven't we had a national dialogue on how to prioritize spending on Superfund sites?

It's time to ask these questions and to reform Superfund. The Bipartisan Budget Agreement requires that Congress enact comprehensive reform before there is any increase in funding. I urge my colleagues to resist efforts to increase funding for this program and to support Superfund reform.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1998

SPEECH OF

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 1997

The House in Committee of the Whole House of the State of the Union had under consideration the bill, H.R. 2107, making appropriations for the Department of the Interior and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998, and for other purposes:

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Chairman, I rise today to recognize the good work of a local organization in my congressional district, the Greater Cleveland Chapter of the Korean War Veterans Association, and the contribution they have made to one of our Nation's memorials. Included in this bill are funds for the National Park Service, which oversees our national memorials, including the Korean War Veterans' Memorial here in Washington, DC.

The Cleveland Chapter of the KWVA has an active membership and its leadership includes Mr. Joe Shearer, who serves as second vice president. Recently, Mr. Shearer brought to my attention and to the attention of Senator GLENN and others in the Ohio congressional delegation the troubling story of the condition of the Korean War Veterans' Memorial. Apparently the memorial was in a state of disrepair due to problems associated with poor construction and engineering.

In true American "can-do" spirit, Mr. Shearer and some of his fellow veterans drove to Washington, DC, to personally inform me of this situation. Letters were sent to the Department of the Interior and the National Park Service expressing concerns about the memorial. Due to the efforts of Mr. Shearer and other veterans, I have been assured by the National Park Service that repairs are currently underway and adequate funds needed to repair the Korean War Memorial have been made available.

The Korean War Veterans Memorial is a tribute to those who served in "the forgotten war." Our Korean war veterans deserve our utmost respect and deserve a memorial in